

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 048559  
ORIGIN DOE-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 OES-07 EB-08 ACDA-12  
CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NRC-05  
DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00  
H-01 INT-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 STR-07 TRSE-00  
XMB-02 /140 R

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APPROVED BY OES/NET:MPROCHNIK  
USDOE:IA - RROBERTSON  
EUR/RPE - KSTOCKER  
EB/ORF/FSE - REHECKLINGER  
-----026381 242153Z /70  
P 242114Z FEB 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH

SUBJ: BILATERAL GROUP ITALY/U.S. MEETING ON COAL  
TECHNOLOGY

REF: STATE 12924

1) DOE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON COAL TECHNOLOGY MET WITH  
ITALIAN DELEGATION MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1978, IN  
WASHINGTON, D.C., TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE R&D COOPERATION  
IN AREAS OF COAL GASIFICATION, COAL LIQUEFACTION, AND  
COAL UTILIZATION.

2) DOE EXPERTS GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF MAJOR U.S. R&D COAL  
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PAGE 02 STATE 048559

PROGRAM AND ANSWERED SPECIFIC QUESTIONS CONCERNING  
POTENTIAL USE AND/OR CONVERSION OF ITALIAN COAL  
DEPOSITS IN SARDINIA.

3) AS ITALIAN DELEGATION WAS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE  
PRESENTATION ON ITS COAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM, IT WAS  
DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY AT THIS MEETING R&D COOPERATION

USEFUL TO BOTH PARTIES.

4) ITALIAN DELEGATION WAS GIVEN TECHNICAL MATERIAL ON DOE FOSSIL ENERGY PROGRAM AND EXPRESSED INTEREST IN (1) SEVERAL U.S. COAL GASIFICATION AND COAL LIQUEFACTION PROCESSES, (2) VISITING THE TOKOMA PILOT PLANT AND THE RIVESVILLE FLUIDIZED BED COMBUSTION PROJECT AT A FUTURE DATE.

5) PENDING ACTION: MEETING WAS ADJOURNED WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT ITALIAN DELEGATION WILL REVIEW DOE'S COAL PROGRAM AND RESPOND IN NEAR FUTURE WITH MORE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS AND/OR AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST FOR POSSIBLE R&D COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S. AND ITALY ALONG WITH THOROUGH DESCRIPTION OF ITALIAN PROGRAM.

6) OVERALL, MEETING WAS DISAPPOINTING IN THAT IT WAS BASICALLY ONE SIDED. BASED ON INCOMPLETE INFORMATION ON ITALIAN PROGRAM, IT IS NOT EVIDENT THAT THERE IS SUFFICIENT ITALIAN WORK OF INTEREST TO USG TO WARRANT A BILATERAL ACTIVITY ON GROUNDS OF TECHNICAL BENEFIT ALONE.

7) COMMENT: WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE ITALIAN DELEGATION CAME TO THIS MEETING WITH SO LITTLE INFORMATION ON ITALIAN COAL PROGRAMS. DOE STRESSED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 048559

THE NEED FOR SUCH INFORMATION AT THE DECEMBER 1977 MEETING OF THE ENERGY WORKING GROUP AND IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. BASED ON DOE TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBASSY ROME, WE UNDERSTAND THAT AN EMBASSY OFFICER ALSO MADE THIS POINT TO THE ITALIANS. THERE OBVIOUSLY WAS A COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEM, BUT WE ARE NOT SURE WHETHER IT WAS BETWEEN THE ITALIANS AND US, OR AMONG THE ITALIANS THEMSELVES. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO EMPHASIZE TO THE ITALIANS THE NEED FOR EARLY SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION ON COAL PROGRAMS. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** COAL, MEETINGS  
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